Session IV – "The First Rule of Intelligent Tinkering Is To Save All the Parts" 3:40 PM

Biodiversity of Freshwater Bryozoans and the Application as Bioindicator in Assessing Water Quality in Songkram River Watershed

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Abstract

The study of freshwater bryozoans in Thailand has been ongoing since 2001 by a research team at Kasetsart University under the supervision of Professor Dr. Timothy S. Wood from Wright State University, USA. The project entitled "The biodiversity of Freshwater Bryozoans and the Application as Bioindicator in Assessing Water Quality in Songkram River Watershed" was partially granted by the Biodiversity Research and Training Program (BRT). The objective of this project was to study bryozoans in Songkram River watershed, an area known for its high biological diversity. This included using local bryozoan species as bioindicators in assessing water quality. Within 10 selected stations along the river, as well as ponds and lakes within the watershed, 11 known species were found, including 3 new species. For bioindicator, *Hislopia malayensis* was grown in plastic panels and submerged in the river for at least one week before checking the growth and survival. In general, growth and survival were much higher during rainy season.

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